THE REMARKS

The Amendment

Applicants are amending the specification to insert the sequence ID number. No new matter is added in the amendment. The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter the amendment.

The Remarks

In the Advisory Action dated March 12, 2002, the Examiner questions whether the claimed method will result in the intended result. Applicants respectfully submit the following explanation.

In step (a), DNA from normal cells is amplified. An amplification product (I) is obtained.

In step (b), cells under study are hybridized with the amplification product (I) from step (a).

In step (c), DNA from hybridized cells from step (b) is amplified. An amplification product (II) is obtained which results from the amplification of the hybridized DNA and the amplification of a chromosomal overrepresentation. Thus, the amount of the amplification product (II) is higher than that of the amplification product (I) from step (a).

In step (d), DNAs of steps (a) and (c) are cohybridized with metaphase chromosome spreads from normal cells, i.e. cells which do not have a chromosomal overrepresentation. As the amount of the amplification product (II) is higher than that of the amplification product (I), the hybridization signal obtained with the amplification product (II) is stronger than that obtained with the amplification product (I).

Thus, the different amounts of amplification products (I) and (II) give the evidence for the presence of a chromosomal overrepresentation.

Applicants are also submitting herewith Sequence Listing as requested by the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: June 10, 2002

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MARKED-UP VERSION SHOWING CHANGES MADE TO SPECIFICATION

In the Specification

Paragraph beginning at page 5, line 11:

10x DOP primer: 20 μM of oligonucleotide 5'CCG ACT CGA GNN NNN NAT GTG G3', (N = A, C, G or T; SEQ ID NO: 1).